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*B*axter

March 27, 2000

Dockets Management Branch
Food and Drug Administration
Department of Health and Human Services, Rm. 1-23
12420 Parklawn Drive
Rockville, MD 20857

Re: Citizen Petition 00P-0498/CP 1

Request for Exemption for the Swan-Ganz Pacing Catheters and Probes

Amendment

This document provides additional information regarding Citizen Petition 00P-0498/CP1 for the Swan-Ganz Pacing catheters and probes.

Baxter submitted the Citizen Petition for these products based on the following:

- The Baxter Swan-Ganz Pacing catheters and probes are used with temporary pulse
 generators to provide temporary pacing, typically in urgent situations. Baxter does not
 manufacture temporary pulse generators or interfacing cables and, therefore, must rely
 on generators and interfacing cables manufactured by other companies.
- The Swan-Ganz Pacing catheters and probes are most often used with the Medtronic pulse generator, using an interfacing cable manufactured by Medtronic that accepts a single-pole pin lead configuration (see Attachment 1). Medtronic has indicated that they do not intend to modify the distal end of the cable that connects to our electrode

007-0498

C3

lead, thus preventing Baxter from making changes to the connectors that would comply with the performance standard (21 CFR 898) and still interface with the Medtronic cable.

- Modification of the Swan-Ganz Pacing catheters and probes to meet the performance standard would require development of an adaptor to connect the compliant, protected leads to the cable. In order to connect to the Medtronic cable, the adaptor would need a single-pole pin lead configuration at the proximal end. This would result in the same situation that is currently present with the Swan-Ganz Pacing products; detachment of the adaptor from the cable by the clinician would effectively convert the compliant, "safe" lead into a noncompliant, "unsafe" one (see Attachment 2).
- Creation of Swan-Ganz Pacing catheters and probes with compliant leads without
 availability of appropriate adaptors or cables to interface with the pulse generators
 could result in patient risk. Clinicians who rely on the use of these products particularly in emergency situations would not be able to connect the products to the
 pulse generator, thus presenting risk to the patient.

In discussions with Kent Berthold of the Office of Compliance, Baxter was informed that adaptors that connect with the Medtronic cable are available through Multicontact or Remington Medical, thus eliminating Baxter's requirement for an exemption. In light of this information, Baxter requests that a variance be granted for a period of 180 days to allow Baxter to convert the leads on the Pacing products to conform with the standard, to identify an adaptor that will interface with our compliant leads and the Medtronic cable or pulse generator, and to allow our customers time to acquire the interface cable/adaptor. The protected lead design (see Attachment 3) that Baxter has identified to meet the performance standard is per DIN 42802-2ST.

Baxter's request for the variance is based on preventing interruption of flow of these products to the field, which would present some patient risk. Baxter is the major supplier for some specialized Pacing products. Baxter is the only source for atrial or ventricular transluminal Pacing probes and atrial/ventricular thermodilution Pacing catheters. Baxter

is the market leader for flow-directed balloon Pacing catheters. The product sales for the Pacing products exceeded 35,000 units for 1999. Eliminating availability of this product would present patient risk.

All of the Pacing products are designed for easy use when administering emergency temporary pacing. Alternate pacing methods (e.g., pacing wire placement or use of non-flow directed catheters) are available but require more clinically skilled operators for electrode placement and result in increased patient risk. In the case of the transluminal probes, the patient would require an additional entrance site for temporary pacing and would suffer the trauma related to the maintenance of this extra site.

Thus, Baxter requests that a 180-day variance be granted to allow Baxter to meet the requirements of the performance standard and to allow customers to acquire appropriate adaptors without interrupting availability of the Pacing products.

If you have any questions regarding the information provided in this amendment, please feel free to call me at (949) 250-2418.

Sincerely,

Paula A. Torrianni

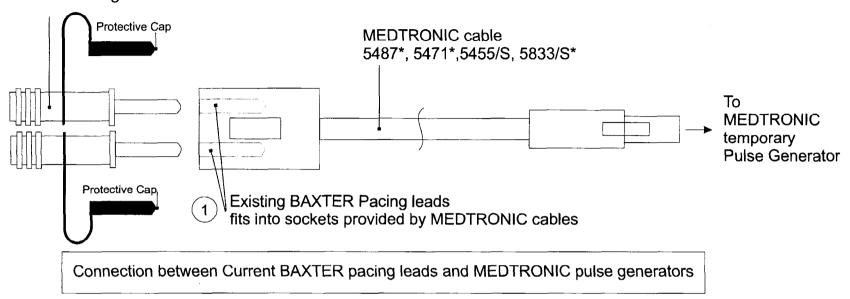
Manager, Regulatory Affairs

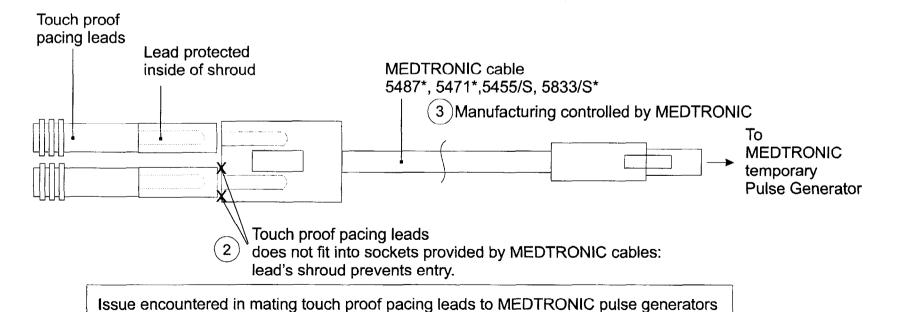
Paula a Doma in

CardioVascular Group

Attachment 1

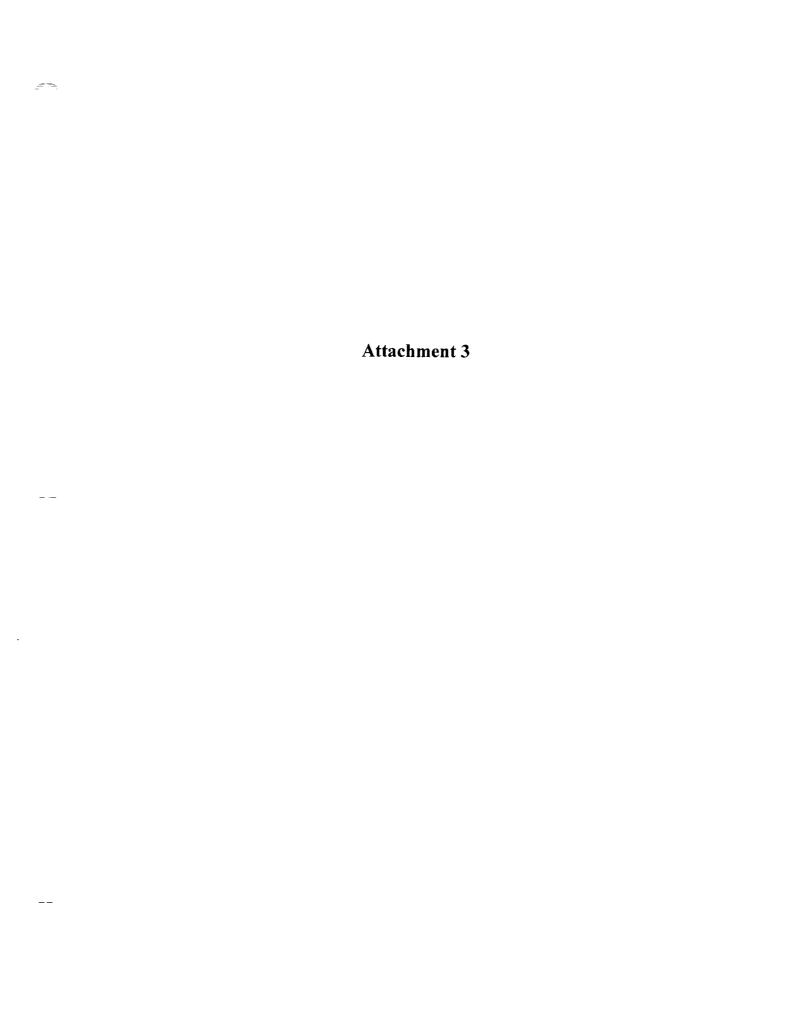
Existing BAXTER Pacing leads

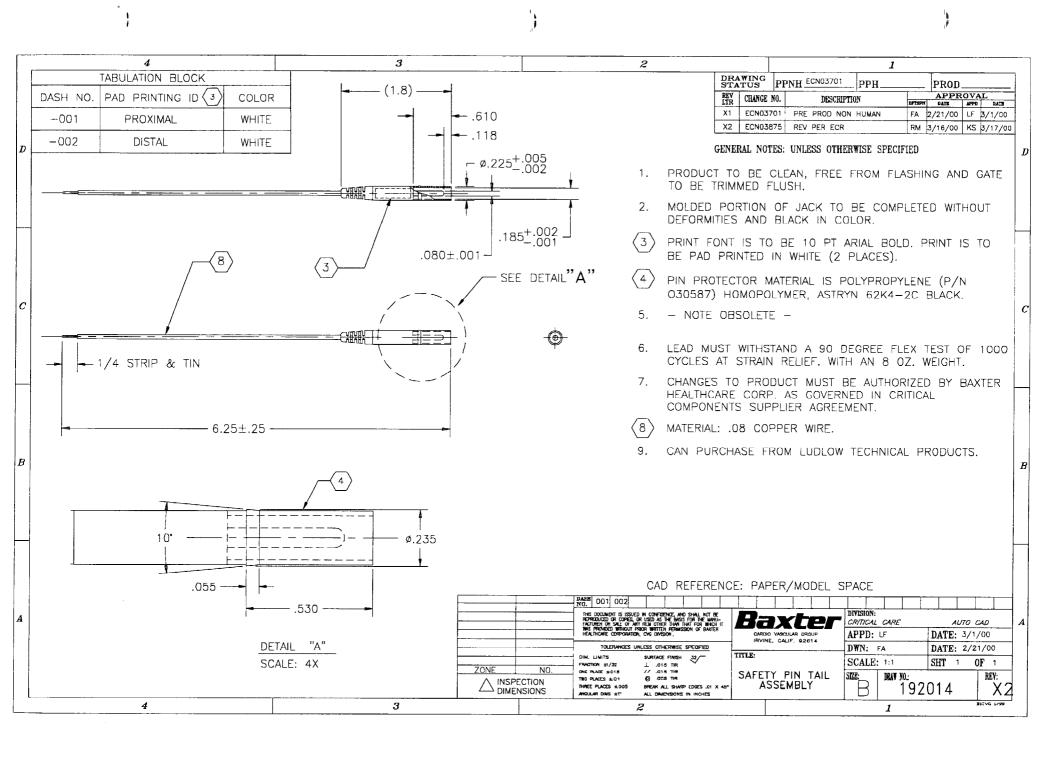




Attachment 2

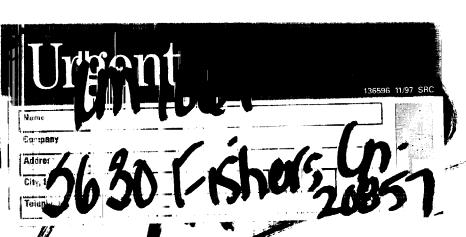
Issue encountered in using adapters to mate with existing MEDTRONIC pulse generator cables





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